<u>REMARKS</u>

This is an amendment under 37 CFR §1.116. The amendments and specific remarks herein, to the extent they were not presented earlier, are now presented because they are necessitated by the arguments made by the Examiner in the last office action. Since this response is being filed within two months of the mailing date of the final rejection, an advisory action is respectfully requested. Claims 16-18, 20, and 31-43 are in this application. Claims 1-15, 19, and 21-30 have been cancelled. Claim 35 has been amended.

The Examiner rejected claims 35-43 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to satisfy the written description requirement, i.e., the Examiner argued that there is no support in the specification for first and second trigger regions of the second conductivity type that contacts a semiconductor region of the first conductivity type, wherein no region of the <u>first</u> conductivity type lies between the first and second trigger regions as recited by claim 35. (Underlining added.)

Claim 35 has been amended to correct an inadvertent typographical error, replacing the word "first" with the word "second." As a result, the phrase objected to by the Examiner reads "wherein no region of the second conductivity type lies between the first and second trigger regions." As shown in applicant's FIG. 1, if the first and second trigger regions required by claim 35 are read to be the n-type floating regions 110 and 112, respectively, then no n-type region lies between the trigger regions. As a result, claim 35 is believed to satisfy the requirements of the first paragraph of section 112.

09/660,386 <u>PATENT</u>

Thus, for the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that all of the claims are in a condition for allowance. Therefore, the Examiner's early re-examination and reconsideration are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 2-1-04

Mark C. Pickering

Registration No. 36,239 Attorney for Assignee

P.O. Box 300

Petaluma, CA 94953-0300 Telephone: (707) 762-5500 Facsimile: (707) 762-5504

Customer No. 33402